

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 are pending.

Claims 1-24 stand rejected.

Rejection of Claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,416,915, Korngiebel et al., ("Korngiebel") in view of U.S. Patent Application 10/678,892, Gallo ("Gallo"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

The Office Action states Korngiebel discloses "automated data storage library system...composed of multiple storage frames/modules, comprising multiple storage shelves/racks, comprising storage cells/locations for storage media...and accessed as required as a sub-component of a logical library comprised of an arbitrary site of arbitrarily located potentially dissimilar storage media...implying that their logical addressing and/or association with the logical library need not be restricted as a function of their physical location..." *See Office Action, paragraph 2.*

The cited portion of Korngiebel discloses "Multiple virtual media libraries are created within the monolithic physical library system. This capability enables the use of a plurality of types of media within the monolithic physical library system with a corresponding plurality of drive elements within the library..." (Korngiebel, column 3, lines 43-48).

In contrast, Applicants' independent claim 1, and generally independent claims 9 and 17 recite, *inter alia*:

...selecting a media type of a first storage frame;

assigning storage addresses for said plurality of storage shelves in said first storage frame;

in response to detecting said selected media type in a storage frame specified by said storage frame number:

assigning storage addresses for said plurality of storage shelves in said storage frame specified by said storage frame number, [and]

in response to detecting that storage addresses have not been assigned to said plurality of storage shelves in all of said storage frames:

setting said storage frame number to the next frame with no assigned storage addresses;

selecting a media type of said next frame with no assigned storage addresses;

returning to step D.

Applicants note that while Korngiebel et al. appears to disclose a data storage library with multiple storage frames capable of utilizing a plurality of types of media, Korngiebel et al. does not disclose the steps of configuring the automated data storage library as recited in claims 1, 9, and 17.

The Office action relies upon Gallo to disclose that "Storage shelf addresses are typically assigned in a sequential order as storage shelves are encountered within each frame" (*Office Action, paragraph 2*). Gallo also does not disclose the steps of configuring the automated data storage library as recited in claims 1, 9, and 17.

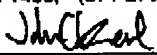
Accordingly, Applicants submit that all of the claim limitations of independent claims 1, 9, and 17 have not been shown by Korngiebel in view of Gallo, alone or in combination. It follows then that a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been met with respect to claims 1, 9, and 17. Accordingly,

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 9, and 17 are allowable for at least this reason over Komgiebel and Gallo, either alone or in combination.

Claims 2-8 depend from independent claim 1 and are allowable for at least this reason. Claims 10-16 depend from independent claim 9 and are allowable for at least this reason. Claims 18-24 depend from independent claims 17 and are allowable for at least this reason.

CONCLUSION

In view of the remarks set forth herein, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is solicited. Nonetheless, should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephonic interview, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the numbers provided below.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being faxed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450, (571-273-8300).	
	3/9/06
Attorney for Applicants	Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,



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